IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

Applicants: Larissa Balakireva Confirmation No.: 4646 Serial No · 10/538,471 Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: June 3, 2005 Examiner: Lucas, Zachariah

Title: MOLECULES INHIBITING HEPATITIS C VIRUS PROTEIN SYNTHESIS.

AND METHOD FOR SCREENING SAME

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope or is being transmitted by electronic filing to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-

1450, on July 5, 2007.

Kathy Smith Dias Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. 41,707

Date of Signature: July 5, 2007

To: Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to Restriction Requirement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.142

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on June 4, 2007, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The one-month period for response expired on July 4, 2007; that being a federal holiday, this response is timely filed.

Claims 1-7, 11 and 13-15 were presented at the time of filing and are currently pending in the application. The Action of June 4, 2007 requires election under 35 U.S.C. §121 among four groups of claims:

1759.200

Group I (claims 1-7), drawn to a method for screening molecules for inhibition of

binding between the eIF3 protein and an HCV IRES sequence;

Group II (claim 11), drawn to a composition comprising an antisense

oligonucleotide complementary to SEQ ID NO:3;

Group III (claim(s) 13 and 14, drawn to methods of treating viral infections using

an aminoglycoside;

Group IV (claim 15), drawn to a method of treating an HCV infection with an

antisense oligonucleotide complementary to SEQ ID NO:3.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-7). The election is made without

traverse and without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected

claim in an additional application.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Attorney at the telephone number given

below if any further questions arise in connection with this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Smith Dias Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 41,707

Dated: July 5, 2007

Address for Correspondence: Kathy Smith Dias

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI P.C.

5 Columbia Circle

Albany, New York 12203-5160 Telephone: (518) 452-5600

Facsimile: (518) 452-5579

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